time, or any other fee occasioned by this paper, or credit any overpayment in such fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

AMENDMENT

Kindly add the following new claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents:

--74. An isolated nucleic acid sequence, of an alternative splicing variant, selected from the group consisting of:

(i) the nucleic acid sequence depicted in SEQ ID NO: 21882;

(ii) nucleic acid sequences having at least 90% identity with the sequence of (i) with the proviso that each sequence is different than the original nucleic acid sequence from which the sequences of (i) have been varied by alternative splicing; and

(iii) fragments of (i) or (ii) of at least 20 bp, provided that said fragment contains a sequence which is not present, as a continuous stretch of nucleotides, in the original nucleic acid sequence from which the sequences of (i) have been varied by alternative splicing.

75. An isolated nucleic acid sequence complementary to the nucleic acid sequence of claim 74.

76. An amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(i) an amino acid sequence coded by the isolated nucleic acid sequence of alternative splice variants of Claim 74;

(ii) homologues of the amino acid sequence of (i) in which one or more amino acids has been added, deleted replaced or chemically modified in the region, or adjacent to the region, where the amino acid sequences differs from the original amino acid sequence, coded by the original nucleic acid sequence from which the variant has been varied by alternative splicing.

77. An isolated nucleic acid sequence coding for any one of the amino acid sequences of claim 76.

78. An expression vector comprising any one of the nucleic acid sequences of claim 74, and control elements for the expression of the nucleic acid sequence in a suitable host.

79. An expression vector comprising any one of the nucleic acid sequences of claim 75, and control elements for the expression of the nucleic acid sequences in a suitable host.

80. A host cell transfected by the expression vector of claim 78.

81. A host cell transfected by the expression vector of claim 79.

82. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an active ingredient, wherein the active ingredient is an agent selected from the group consisting of:

(i) an expression vector comprising any one of the nucleic acid sequences of claim 74, and control elements for the expression of the nucleic acid sequence in a suitable host; and

(ii) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence coded by the isolated nucleic acid sequence of alternative splice variants of claim 74; and

(b) homologues of the amino acid sequence of (a) in which one or more amino acids has been added, deleted replaced or chemically modified in the region, or adjacent to the region, where the amino acid sequences differs from the original amino acid sequence, coded by the original nucleic acid sequence from which the variant has been varied by alternative splicing.

83. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and an active ingredient, wherein the active ingredient is an agent selected from the group consisting of:

(i) an expression vector comprising any one of the nucleic acid sequences of claim 74, and control elements for the expression of the nucleic acid sequence in a suitable host; and

(ii) an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a) an amino acid sequence coded by the isolated nucleic acid sequence of alternative splice variants of Claim 74; and

(b) homologues of the amino acid sequence of (a) in which one or more amino acids has been added, deleted replaced or chemically modified in the region, or adjacent to the region, where the amino acid sequences differs from the original amino acid sequence, coded by the original nucleic acid sequence from which the variant has been varied by alternative splicing;

for treatment of diseases which can be ameliorated or cured by raising the level of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(i) an amino acid sequence coded by the isolated nucleic acid sequence of alternative splice variants of Claim 74;

(ii) homologues of the amino acid sequence of (i) in which one or more amino acids has been added, deleted replaced or chemically modified in the region, or adjacent to the region, where the amino acid sequences differs from the original amino acid sequence, coded by the original nucleic acid sequence from which the variant has been varied by alternative splicing.

84. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and as an active ingredient an agent selected from the group consisting of:

(i) any one of the nucleic acid sequences of claim 75; and

(ii) an expression vector comprising any one of the nucleic acid sequences of claim 75, and control elements for the expression of the nucleic acid sequences in a suitable host.

85. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and as an active ingredient an agent selected from the group consisting of:

(i) any one of the isolated nucleic acid sequences complementary to the nucleic acid sequence of claim 74; and

(ii) an expression vector comprising any one of the isolated nucleic acid sequences complementary to the nucleic acid sequence of claim 74, and control elements for the expression of the nucleic acid sequences in a suitable host;

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for treatment of diseases which can be ameliorate or cured by decreasing the level of any one of the amino acid sequences selected from the group consisting of:

(i) an amino acid sequence coded by the isolated nucleic acid sequence of alternative splice variants of Claim 74;

(ii) homologues of the amino acid sequence of (i) in which one or more amino acids has been added, deleted replaced or chemically modified in the region, or adjacent to the region, where the amino acid sequences differs from the original amino acid sequence, coded by the original nucleic acid sequence from which the variant has been varied by alternative splicing.--

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